

# 2005 Report of Accomplishments (July 1, 2004-June 30, 2005)

## South Douglas Conservation District

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### Most Significant Natural Resource Accomplishment

- *Provided cost share opportunities to five orchardists to improve irrigation systems, three dryland farmers for no-till operations and weed control, one windbreak and thirty five farmers for soil testing. These projects will improve water quality by maximizing efficient use of water, preventing wind and soil erosion, and minimizing the amount of excess fertilizer that may reach water sources.*

### Mission of the South Douglas Conservation District

- *Maintain and improve natural resources, particularly soil and water, in southern Douglas County through cooperative education, demonstrations, and voluntary participation.*

### Natural Resource Improvements in 2005

- *Provided no-till equipment to area farmers – 1,940 acres tilled using the equipment.*
- *Awarded 44 cost share projects. Projects included 38 dryland farming practices, 1 windbreak, and improvement of irrigation systems in 5 orchards.*



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### Water Quality Implementation

- *By having the equipment available to district operators, less soil and wind erosion occurred. 1,939 acres tilled.*
- *Annual Tree and Shrub sale. Plants for windbreaks, erosion control, wildlife enhancement and beautification are available. Native and adaptive plants.*
- *Hydroseeded one quarter mile of burned shrub steppe to protect neighboring orchard and property owners from wind and soil erosion.*

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### Basic Funding

- *Basic funding used to fund activities not covered by implementation grant. Administrative expenses, tree sale expenses, travel not covered by grants.*

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### Local Funding

- *Douglas County allotment (\$2,500) used for education expenses (annual meeting and NCW Fair booth) as well as administrative expenses.*

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### Watershed Conservation/Habitat Restoration

- *Foster Creek Conservation District acts as lead entity for Watershed planning and similar activities in Douglas County. South Douglas supervisors or employees serve on the boards or committees.*

## **Community Collaboration & Coordination**

- *Participated in six CSP (Conservation Reserve Program) community presentations, in cooperation with NRCS.*
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## **Outreach & Education**

- *Work with Foster Creek Conservation District, NRCS and FSA to produce quarterly newsletter, Conservation Voices, which is sent to 900 persons/organizations in Douglas County and interested parties.*
- *Annual meeting with 60 people attending, with pesticide credits available.*
- *Funded Water on Wheels, hosted by Upper Grant CD, in Douglas County Schools*
- *Provided funding for Waterville Grade School Douglas Creek Study Project.*
- *North Central Washington Fair booth promotes conservation education and the District's programs.*

Washington Conservation Districts assisting land managers with their conservation choices